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The Bay Window

November 2019

Dream. Aspire. Achieve.



High School students honoring Mr. Mestek during this year’s Charlie Mestek Community Day of Service. Alyvia Woodlee Austin Hartwig, Ms. Racky, Minnette Toor, Charlie Meseke, and Addison Vlastnik.

Charlie Mestek Community Service Day

Friday, October 18th was a very busy day for Williams Bay High School Students. A parade, a pep rally and a football game all to celebrate Williams Bay High School’s 103rd Homecoming. However, before any of that began, 200+ Williams Bay High School students and their teachers were out in the community, working to beautify a wide variety of locations.

The Day of Community Service was started in 2017 to honor the recent retirement of a favorite teacher, Mr. Charlie Mestek. Mr. Mestek taught all his students the importance of caring for their community and each other. Williams Bay High School Principal, Dr. William White thought that a day of community service would be the perfect “retirement gift” for Mr. Mestek.

Students this year were asked by community residents, businesses and organizations to serve at 22 different sites, doing everything from weeding and mulching to washing vehicles at the Fire Department. Students raked the lawns of Senior Citizens, painted and built equipment at local camps, did roadside garbage pickup, and much, much more.

“It was a great way to start the day!” said teacher Sara Terrill who chaperoned a raking project at a local senior citizen’s home. “Our resident was so happy, she cried when she saw the job our crew had done,” she said. Gratitude was expressed by all who received the services and enjoyed seeing just how hard the students worked.

Mr. Mestek, who currently resides in Door County, traveled to Williams Bay for the day and spent a little time with each student group. He was so pleased at what he saw. “It’s great” he said,” I am so proud of each student who is out here working so hard.”

For more information, please contact Deb Soplanda at dsoplanda@williamsbayschools.org.

Congratulations



Congratulations to ChiefDogs tennis players sophomore Emily Gauger and senior Clare Heckert for their impressive season. The doubles team ending up in the top 16 teams in the state of Wisconsin.



A program of the Williams Bay School District

The Williams Bay School District is offering a free program for children from infants to age four in our community. The Stay & Play Program is designed to promote play, social development, and provide engaging interactions for children in Williams Bay. The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) encourages play in children, to help develop cognitive skills, gross and fine motor skills, language, social skills, and early literacy skills.

During Stay & Play, we have free play, a book, a craft, and a song or music planned for each session. Ms. Syring, Ms. Haning, Ms. McOmber, and Mrs. Molitor are the Williams Bay staff members that are part of the fun! We will also have a special guest reader once a month, so please check out the Williams Bay School District Facebook page for more information. Dr. Anderson, Mrs. Bond, Dr. White, and members of our Williams Bay School District Board of Education are all excited to come read to the group! Also-- look out for more information on Coffee with a Cop! Officer Erickson will be joining us in December, February, and April!

There is no need to sign up for Stay & Play. The program is held on Wednesdays from 2:15- 3:15 when school is in session. Join us for any part of this time! Please contact Kassie McOmber, Director of Special Education & School Psychologist with any questions at 262-245-5571 or kmcomber@williamsbayschool.org.

Upcoming Events

November 22 & 23	HS Musical, <i>Newsies</i> at 7:00 PM in Lecture Center
November 27-29	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
December 2	NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service
December 7	Drama Club Performance at 7:00 PM in Lecture Center
December 12	MS/HS Holiday Band Concert 7:00 PM (Grades 6-12)
December 13	4K/5K Winter Concert 9:00 AM
	Grades 1-5 Winter Concert 2:00 PM
December 17	MS/HS Winter Choir Concert 7:00 PM (Grades 6-12)
Dec. 21 - Jan. 5	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Dec. 21 - Jan. 5	NO SCHOOL--Winter Break
January 17	PNO (Parent’s Night Out) at 7 PM
January 23	1/2 Day for Students
January 24	NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service



The 2019 Casino Night Homecoming Court includes Front: Princess Marija Madzgalj, Queen and King Hannah Rabenhorst and Daniel Reese, Prince Xavier Quiles, Back: Sophomore Reps Annie Murphy and Rafael Gimminex, Senior Reps Clare Heckert and Marc Gallegos, Junior Reps Paige Gilbert and Sam Norton, Freshman Reps Mia Hoover and Graham Oxley.

Student Leadership Team Update

The High School Student Leadership Team is a new student organization at the high school. The WBHS Student Council and the WBHS Class Officers have merged to form this new group. This new organization is about empowering high school leaders to guide and lead the activities and culture of the student body.

This group met for a full day over the summer to establish their own objectives and principles for the school year. The group is committed to enhancing school spirit, supporting all students' academic and co-curricular needs, and building partnerships with younger students and the community at large.

On October 4, the Student Leadership Team spent a day at the Outdoor Wisconsin Leadership School (OWLS) on the Holiday Home campus. The students were guided through a variety of team building and leadership training activities to help them think about the upcoming year. By completing these training exercises, the students gained a greater understanding of how to lead their peers. In particular, the students noted the importance of stepping back to let the quiet voices through and pausing to think through challenges before jumping right into something. After the morning session was completed, students spent the afternoon brainstorming various ideas for the 2019-2020 school year.

With the Wishtree kick-off assembly and homecoming activities in the rear view mirror already, the team is looking forward to other first semester events. The team is planning on putting together 10 Thanksgiving meal boxes for district families, hosting a December 13 blood drive, assisting in the Holiday Help Mitten Tree, and developing an "It's okay to NOT be okay" mental health initiative.

The 2019-2020 Student Leadership Executive Board members are: President: Hannah Rabenhorst, Vice-president: Miles West, Secretary: Meg Sorenson and Treasurer: Tanner Farnham.

If you have any questions about upcoming programs or the organization itself, please contact Emily Snyder at esnyder@williamsbayschool.org.



Members of the 2019-2020 Student Leadership Team enjoy team building activities at Outdoor Wisconsin Leadership School at the Holiday Home Campus.

DISTRICT DISCUSSIONS

By Dr. Wayne Anderson, Superintendent

Fall is here with all of its colors and excitement. It is hard to believe that we have already had two months of school and that the fall sports seasons are entering their tournament stage and the winter sports are getting ready to gear up for their first practices. It sometimes seems that the older I get the faster that time seems to go by.

As most of you know, this past July I announced that I would be retiring as the district's District Administrator on June 30, 2020. Since that time, the Board of Education has been busy looking for your next District Administrator. The Board of Education knows that we have an incredibly supportive staff and community and has been working hard to make sure that both are involved in finding my replacement.

Earlier this year, the Board put out a survey to the staff and community asking what qualifications they should look for in the next District Administrator. 165 individuals responded to the survey providing the Board with their input. The Board also held a "Community Conversation" on September 18 to talk to students, staff, parents and community members on what qualities they would like to see in their next District Administrator. The Board took the information from this meeting and the survey to revise the District Administrator's job description and start making some decisions on the interview process.

The position was posted on October 16 and candidates are already applying. I am not surprised as this is a wonderful school district filled with great students, great staff, great parents and a great community. I have considered myself very fortunate to be a part of this school district for the past seven years. People ask if I am looking forward to retirement and the answer is, "I really don't know." I know that I will miss my conversations with the students and staff each day. I enjoy talking with people in the commons, hallways and just stopping into the classrooms to see what our students are learning each day. I tell people that our schools are like a large family, not every family member agrees with every decision, but every family member wants the best for the other members of their family and will work to help and defend them to the best of their ability.

On November 16, the Board of Education will meet to review the candidates that have applied for my position and will select those individuals that they feel might be a good fit for the school district. After this selection, the Board will work with a committee of teachers, parents, community members and possibly students to interview the prospective candidates and narrow the field down to the top two or three candidates that they like the most. These finalists will be interviewed by the full Board of Education with the intention of finding the next District Administrator. It is possible that this individual will be selected before Christmas break and that a successful contract can be negotiated and agreed upon in early January.

It is my goal to help the next District Administrator in any way I can to be successful. I want each of you to know how honored I am to be your District Administrator. As I have told you many times in the past, "Thank You" for your continued support! Together we can accomplish great things for our staff, students and community. I truly appreciate everything that you do.

2019-20 Middle School/High School YEARBOOK SALE

\$45 See Mrs. Quinn in the High School Office.

Senior pictures for the yearbook are due to Mrs. Quinn by February 1.



Members of the Williams Bay High School Spanish Club display some of the 594 new pairs of socks that they collected from students and staff during Socktober. The donations were given to Circle of Friends in Elkhorn to be distributed to families in need in Walworth County.



Step it Up! Fitness Fundraiser

Williams Bay Elementary School tried a new fundraising idea this year. Step It Up is an experience Physical Education focused fundraiser. Students collected donations from their biggest fans/supporters via emails or texts. Our school was then awarded with a Day of Awesomeness, inspired by the hit TV shows American Ninja Warrior and Wipeout. Step It Up supports our ongoing goal of providing energy driven and fitness focused experiences here at Williams Bay Elementary School. Step It Up will empower our students to "IDENTIFY THEIR AWESOMENESS". Williams Bay Elementary School received over \$10,000 which will be used toward a walking/running path on the school property, indoor recess games, or physical education activities and games. Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser! On October 22, all students in grades K-5 experienced a DAY OF AWESOMENESS. Students had a blast dancing and playing on 7 different inflatable structures; Obstacle Course, Wrecking Ball, Gauntlet, Slippery Slope, Hamster Balls, and more.

U.S. News and World Report Ranking

U.S. News ranked 17,245 public high schools, out of a review of more than 23,000 in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Williams Bay High is ranked #877 in the National Rankings and 23rd in the state of Wisconsin. The new rankings, developed in conjunction with nonprofit research firm RTI International, are based on a revamped methodology that weighs six indicators of school quality for the 2016-2017 school year:

- * College readiness, based on the proportions of 12th-grade students who took and passed Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate exams.
- * College curriculum breadth, based on proportions of 12th-grade students who took and passed AP and/or IB exams in multiple content areas.
- * Math and reading proficiency, based on student performance on state-required tests.
- * Math and reading performance, based on whether performance on state assessments exceeded expectations given the school's proportion of underserved students.
- * Underserved student performance, based on how black, Hispanic and low-income students performed on state assessments compared with those who are not underserved in the state.
- * Graduation rates, based on the proportion of students who entered ninth grade in 2012-2013 and graduated four years later.



Based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899, this new Disney musical tells the story of Jack Kelly, a rebellious newsboy who dreams of a life as an artist away from the big city.

Newsies will be performed on Friday, November 22 and Saturday, November 23 at 7:00 PM in the lecture center. Tickets are \$5 (3 and under free) and may be purchased at the door or reserved. If you would like to reserve tickets for either show, please send Ms. Wittmus an email, hwittmus@williamsbayschool.org.

From the Desk of Mrs. Ali Bond Elementary Principal

Reader's & Writer's Workshop:

We are off to a great start this fall with many exciting things happening. We started the school year with a full day training to kick off the implementation of Reader's Workshop using Lucy Calkins' model. Mrs. Lile continues her work as a literacy coach this year to assist and support the classroom teachers and ensure a smooth and successful implementation of Reader's Workshop as well as Writer's Workshop that was implemented last year. She spent time assessing students on their reading skills to start the school year and is now working directly with teachers and students as well as behind the scenes researching and preparing resources. Students are working on building capacity for reading at their individual level and understanding how to select "right fit" books. As students learn more strategies and tools to enhance their reading comprehension teachers confer with them individually, in strategy groups and during book club meetings to continue to develop and build on their reading skills. We look forward to refining our skills in the workshop model and continue to work with a representative from CESA 6 who demonstrates and holds discussions with teachers every quarter.

Focusing on Positive Climate, Culture & Community:

Another exciting happening is our focus on cultivating a positive climate, culture and community that provides a sense of belonging, builds social emotional capacity and improves instruction for all. We are working on building a sense of belonging and community through classroom meetings. We are also in our second year or implementing PBIS, Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports. We started this school year with a review of our common language regarding building and classroom expectations. We continue to reteach, review and practice expectations throughout the year to promote the three Be's, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, throughout the school. Students have opportunities to earn individual stamps to trade for incentive items from a large menu of choices. There are also classroom and school wide incentives built into the plan to encourage positive behavior for all students. We have made many changes to our original plan and are always interested in feedback to continuously improve our school. Stop, "Paws" & Learn sheets are used as a communication tool to inform parents of any undesirable behavior so support can be provided at home to help change the behavior to more positive choices. It is fun to celebrate the accomplishments of individual students and classrooms.

School Report Card:

Congratulations to the students, staff and families regarding the overall score of Significantly Exceeds Expectations on the Williams Bay Elementary School Report Card. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) generates a School Report Card and District Report Card for every publicly funded school and district in the state. The Report Cards are intended to help schools and districts use performance data to target improvement efforts that ensure students are ready for their next educational step – including the next grade level, graduation, college, and careers.

The current School Report Card is primarily based on last year's performance, the 2018-2019 school year. At the foundation of the report cards are four priority areas. Schools and districts receive a score for each priority area:

Student Achievement proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics on the annual state assessments

School Growth measured by year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement Closing Gaps in performance between specific student groups (comparing English language learners, low-income students, students with disabilities, and members of a racial or an ethnic group with their peers)

On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness showing reliable predictors of how many students are on-track to graduate from high school and student readiness for post-high school success

Schools and districts are also evaluated on their level of student engagement – chronic absenteeism rates and dropout rates – when applicable. As DPI stresses, these report cards are just one source of information about our school.



Please join us...

"Christmas Around the World"

4K & 5K Friday, December 13 at 9am

1st-5th grade, band and choir at 2pm

From the Desk of Dr. William White

Middle/High School Principal

Homecoming week 2019 was an incredible week filled with school spirit, fun, and a Bulldog football game. The students did an excellent job with the spirit days, lunch time games, powder puff volleyball & football as well as hall decorating. The week culminated with a well-organized pep rally lead by the senior class.

This year brought two significant changes to homecoming activities. The homecoming parade returned to downtown this year and was held at 4:00 pm on Friday, October 18th. The sophomores did an excellent job organizing the parade and inviting community organizations to participate. The turnout by families and community was tremendous. Based on feedback from those attending the parade, this is a tradition that we will continue.

The second change was students were asked to not toilet paper on Geneva Street. Working with the village, the police department and the students, we felt it was time to end this long-held tradition. The students respected this request and worked to implement fun activities to off-set the elimination of the tradition in Williams Bay. This cooperation was greatly appreciated by many in the community, especially on the weekend of the Centennial celebration.

I invite feedback from parents and community members on this year’s homecoming week. I have met with staff to gather their thoughts and input as well as the Williams Bay Police Department. If parents or community members would like to share feedback, please contact Dr. White at 262-245-6224 or by email wwhite@williamsbayschools.org.



Joe Sorensen and Mr. White, Technology Education Teacher man a booth at Edgewater Park during the Centennial Celebration selling Geneva Lake Plaques and key chains.



WBHS Drama Club is proud to announce their first performance date of the 2019-20 Season. 39 Steps: A Live Radio Play is a one-night only engagement on Saturday, December 7th at 7:00 pm in the high school commons. Audience members will enjoy dessert items, snacks, coffee and other refreshments as they sit back and watch the 50 minute performance inspired by Alfred Hitchcock’s classic tale. Performed as a live period radio play, this romantic thriller is a fast-paced ride through the signature world of the Master of Suspense. Cost is \$5.00 at the door which entitles you to the show, one beverage, and all you can eat treats. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The 2019-20 club officers are Director Kylie Monroe, Assistant Director Nettie Dellheim, Technical Director Kory Wilson, and Stage Manager Hannah Frazier. Drama Club is supervised by high school art teacher Mr. Matt Dunlap. Be sure to search February’s Bay Window issue for “Clues” on our spring performance happening in March 2020.



Sixth graders Piper Janssen, Fin Pecht, Micah Stroud, and DJ Fry enjoy their time at Outdoor Ed.

Outdoor Education at Camp Timberlee

By Micalena Morrison

What is Outdoor Ed?

“Outdoor Ed” or Outdoor Education is an educational program made to teach 6th graders, while being led by camp staff, teachers from Williams Bay school and an assortment of high school counselors. The program takes place at camp Timber-lee, a 600 acre, overnight camp. Outdoor Education lasts for two nights and three days, for 2018, Outdoor Education was on October 7th, 8th and 9th. Camp Timber-lee provides an assortment of activities like; Volleyball, tetherball, bankshot basketball, ga ga ball, hiking, a place to eat in the commons, and of course, a place to take in your surroundings.

Where did we go for Outdoor Ed, and what did we do?

For Outdoor Education we went to Camp Timber-lee. Camp Timber-lee is a large, mostly overnight camp that hosts summer camp, retreat programs, and most importantly; school related activities. As for school related activities, you can do; Science Ed, Timber Challenge, Saddle Horn Ranch and last but certainly not least, Outdoor Education. In Outdoor Education you were able to participate in; Animal Encounter, an animal presentation where you can meet the animals up close, Astronomy, where you can learn the constellations, planets, and other astronomy facts, Wolf Pack, an active night time challenge where students learn about wolves and play an outdoor game using those learned skills, ect.

Who went to Outdoor Ed, and when did you go?

My grade went to it on the 7th of October, four teachers and thirteen high school councilors came with us too. In total 79 people came on the trip, counting the sixty-two 6th graders. The last day was the 9th.

Why do you think Outdoor Ed is important for 6th graders?

I believe Outdoor Education is important for 6th graders because it is a good learning experience, I think this because it is very good to have a grasp on the outdoors, it is also important because it will give them physical activity from all the walking and hiking that you do at the camp. At Outdoor Education you will also get to socialize, so it may heighten any skills that you may be struggling with. All in all it is very important to be educated with Outdoor Education.

What were your experiences at Outdoor Ed?

At Outdoor Education I had many experiences, such as the night hike. The night hike was extremely fun to do, we started it by talking about the stars and how to find north, afterwards we started to listen to the noises we heard, next we continued to hike, after a while we stopped and the leader showed us firefly larvae that glowed in the dark. After a steep hill we came across a resting place, sadly I would have to go but even if it was cut short, I still loved every part of it.



Williams Bay Holiday Help Program

With the holidays right around the corner, please consider helping to make the season a little brighter for some Williams Bay families. There are two ways to help: by taking a tag off the Giving Tree at the Middle/High School or monetary donations are also appreciated! Please drop off donations at the Middle/High School Office. Money is used to purchase clothes and toys for families in our community! Checks can be made out to: Williams Bay Schools. For more information, please contact Megan Williamson at mwilliamson@williamsbayschools.org.